



**R. Booth Goodwin II, United States Attorney
Southern District of West Virginia**

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CONTACT: Melvin Smith
800-659-8726*(304)345-2200
Melvin.Smith@usdoj.gov

OHIO MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGAL FIREARMS POSSESSION CHARGE

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. – Terry Jay Aldridge, 38, of Proctorville, Ohio, pleaded guilty today before United States District Judge Robert C. Chambers, to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Aldridge admitted that on July 28, 2009, he traveled to the O'Charley's restaurant in Barboursville, West Virginia to confront an individual. According to witnesses, at the time of the confrontation, the defendant pointed a 9-millimeter handgun at the known individual. An officer with the Barboursville Police Department responded to the scene and subsequently detained the defendant. The defendant stated that he had a 9-millimeter handgun in his pocket and the officer recovered the firearm, along with a 9-millimeter magazine and eight rounds of ammunition from the defendant's pockets. According to the defendant's criminal history, in 1992, Aldridge had been convicted of an aggravated felony of the second degree in Lawrence County, Ohio.

Aldridge faces up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine when he is sentenced on August 29, 2011.

This case was investigated by the Huntington Police Department. Special Assistant United States Attorney Joe Adams is in charge of the prosecution.

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OHIO MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL DRUG CHARGES

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. –Kevlin Jackson, 30, of Columbus, Ohio, pleaded guilty today in federal court before United States District Judge Robert C. Chambers, to distribution of cocaine. On August 19, 2010, the defendant arrived at Smokin' Aces, a store in Huntington, following a prearranged drug transaction agreement made by one of his associates and an undercover ATF agent. Jackson admitted to asking one of the undercover agents present for a scale and placed a plastic bag which contained a white substance on the weighing device. Jackson further admitted to negotiating a price and subsequently sold the substance to the undercover agent for \$1500. The substance was sent to the DEA Mid-Atlantic Laboratory where it tested positive for cocaine with a weight of 23.9 grams.

Jackson faces up to 20 years in prison and a \$1 million fine when he is sentenced on August 29, 2011.

Assistant United States Attorney Greg McVey is in charge of the prosecution.

This case is being prosecuted as part of a yearlong undercover operation that targeted illegal drugs and firearms crimes in the Huntington area. The operation was led by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and assisted by the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Huntington Police Department, and various other law enforcement agencies. It was announced to the public in March after a grand jury returned indictments against 55 defendants.

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CHARLESTON MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL OXYCODONE CHARGE

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Rashid Omari Kent, 27, of Charleston, pleaded guilty today in federal court before United States District Judge John T. Copenhaver Jr., to possession with intent to distribute oxycodone. Kent admitted that on or about April 7, 2010, he sold five 80-milligram oxycodone tablets to an informant working for the Kanawha County Sheriff's Office. The drug transaction occurred at the defendant's Charleston residence. Following the drug transaction, investigators executed a search warrant at the defendant's home where they seized approximately 53 80-milligram oxycodone tablets and approximately \$809 cash. The defendant further admitted that he had been distributing oxycodone in and around Kanawha County for approximately seven months prior to April 7, 2010.

Kent faces up to 20 years in prison and a \$1 million fine when he is sentenced on August 11, 2011.

This case was investigated by the Kanawha County Sheriff's Department. Assistant United States Attorney Josh Hanks is in charge of the prosecution.

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